



Division of Disability and Rehabilitative Services
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To: Vocational Rehabilitation Employment Service Providers

From: Theresa Koleszar, Director, Bureau of Rehabilitation Services

Re: Establishment Project Q&A

Date: October 7, 2016

On September 14, 2016, the Bureau of Rehabilitation Services (BRS) issued a Request for Funding<sup>1</sup> (RFF) requesting responses from approved Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) Employment service providers that have a demonstrated need to enter into establishment projects in order to increase staff capacity and training for the purpose of increasing the quality of services and competitive, integrated employment outcomes to VR applicants or eligible individuals.

Non-profit<sup>2</sup> Community Rehabilitation Programs (CRPs) who have a VR employment services provider agreement on file as of July 2016 are permitted to submit a proposal. Establishment Project funds will be awarded to CRPs to <u>increase</u> staffing capacity and to <u>develop or enhance</u> foundational skills training of new or existing employment service staff members, to <u>improve</u> the provision of employment services and outcomes, including supported employment services for individuals with the most significant disabilities.

The VR services provided through establishment projects must be delivered <u>only</u> to VR applicants or individuals who have been determined eligible to receive VR services. Allowable VR employment services are defined in detail in the VR Manual of Employment Services located at <a href="http://www.in.gov/fssa/ddrs/4976.htm">http://www.in.gov/fssa/ddrs/4976.htm</a>. Additional information about the Establishment project RFF can also be viewed at this link.

The deadline to submit questions pertaining to Establishment Projects was September 30, 2016 and the bureau's response to the questions are available at the following link: <a href="http://www.in.gov/fssa/ddrs/4976.htm">http://www.in.gov/fssa/ddrs/4976.htm</a>.

RFF Proposals are due October 24, 2016, by 3 p.m. EST to Kristina.Blankenship@fssa.in.gov

<sup>1</sup> The Establishment Project RFF is located at http://www.in.gov/fssa/files/RFF-Establishment%20Sept%202016.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Establishment, development, or improvement of a public or nonprofit community rehabilitation program 361.5(b)17

